

# OF INTEREST TO OUR FARMER FRIENDS.

## REGISTRATION LAND LAW IS FAVORED BY BARRETT.

President of the Farmers' Union Says Such Legislation Will Aid Members.

President Charles S. Barrett, of the Farmers' National union is heartily in accord with the plans for legislation in Georgia for a land title and registration law, along lines of the Torrens statutes.

Speaking of the proposed legislation, a few days ago, President Barrett said:

"I have made a study of the operation of the law in several states, and my observation has uniformly been of a favorable nature.

"The state of North Carolina employs the system, and would not exchange it for any other. At the recent Farmers' union national convention, held at Charlotte, there was much discussion of the Torrens idea, and members generally expressed themselves in unqualified approval of it.

"Sentiment for the law is growing in Virginia and South Carolina, while in south Georgia it is especially strong.

"There is no valid reason why the state should not, as under the Torrens plan, guarantee titles to land. It is called upon, often enough, to thresh out differences of opinion regarding titles in its superior courts, to make it to the state's interest to minimize litigation.

"That is, in fact, one of the most appealing features of the Torrens system. It minimizes both litigation, which is expensive to the state, and to the individual, and it saves antagonisms. And one of the most fruitful sources of quarrel in the country districts is found in disagreements over land titles."

President Barrett has gone to Richmond and Washington.

In the first city, he will attend an important state meeting of the Virginia organization.

In the national capital he will press upon congress the matter of a national parcels post.

"We are sure to get it," he said, "as soon as congress finds out the whole country really wants this right, now given the majority of European nations."

## Benefits of Using Lime for Clovers

The presence of lime in the land seems necessary for best success with clovers, and a good application of lime is always of decided benefit to both clover and alfalfa. On soils deficient in this, it is sometimes uncertain to get good stands; whereas, when lime is used freely, it nearly always results in good stands and good crops of clover. The best time to apply lime is either during the winter, before plowing, or just after the land is broken up, before harrowing. The quantity of lime usually applied is 1,000 lbs. per acre on light or loamy land, and 2,000 lbs per acre on heavy or stiff lands. On lands already set in clover or grass, an application of land plaster at the rate of 200 to 300 lbs. per acre, as a top-dressing in the spring, is of decided benefit.

The best fertilizer to use, either in seeding down clover or as fertilizer top-dressing, is ground animal bone.

Land well set in clover not only makes a good forage or hay crop, but is improving the condition and productiveness of the land at the same time. Clovers are also almost indispensable for best results in hay and pasturage mixtures.

## Clovers and Grasses.

The high price of hay should give an additional incentive for sowing increased acreage of grasses and clovers the coming year. The high price and indicated high prices of cow peas, soja beans and other leguminous crops, should also make clover more largely used and depended upon as a soil-improver, as at present values it costs less to seed per acre than any of the leguminous crops. The bountiful crops and resulting low prices of grain should also make farmers pay more attention to the improvement of the land, which can be accomplished by seeding down to grasses and clovers.

Alfalfa makes your soil rich, your horses strong, your beeves fat, your calves grow rapidly, your cows give lots of rich milk, and improves the politics and politicians of a state; indeed, it will revolutionize the country when we grow enough of it.

## How I Raised the World's Best Ten Ears of Corn.

The very first thing to consider is the drainage of the land. The fields that I raised the prize-winning corn on are drained with five-inch tile laid every 20 rods.

Next comes the preparing of the seed beds. I double-disked them plowed and worked the ground down till I had a perfect seed bed. I checked the corn three feet and six inches, with three grains of corn to the hill.

When the corn was a foot or more high I thinned it to two stalks to the hill.

The plowing was carried on as long and as often as possible, with deep cultivation at first and ending up with very shallow cultivation. After the corn was too high to plow with a cultivator I took an old mower wheel and had a blacksmith put ten teeth around the side of the rim, and I ran through my fields.

When the corn was ripe enough to gather I got some boxes and wired them on the sides of the wagon beds. Then when I came to an ear that looked promising I threw it into the box. Then I would sort these over and when I found an ear that looked like a grand champion candidate I would bundle it up in my old coat and gently carry it to the house, where I took possession of a room for storing the big ears. When harvesting time was over I had a nice lot of ears to pick from.

Thus I sifted the ears down till I had the best ten ears in the lot—the winners of the national sweepstakes and the Indiana trophy for the crop of 1910.—Roy D. Clore in Atlanta Semi-Weekly.

## Care of Breeding Sows.

The sow should have her first litter when about a year old. If bred to farrow at an earlier age she is not likely to raise a very good litter. If allowed to go over that age she is adding to the cost of production unnecessarily. The first litter of pigs is supposed to be inferior to pigs from subsequent litters, but in my experience this deduction does not appear to be accurate. It is usually better to allow somewhat more than six months between the first and second litters. For that reason if it is possible, keep the sow in fair condition. Sows giving only one litter a year are usually unsatisfactory breeders and although fall litters may not be so profitable as spring litters the breeders will find it most satisfactory and profitable in the long run to have two litters come during the year.—Writer in Atlanta Journal.

## Sowing in March On Fall-Sown Grain.

Grasses and clovers especially can be safely and satisfactorily seeded on fall-sown wheat, oats or other grain crops, during the month of March. Seeding at that time not only saves an extra preparation of the land, but the harrowing and cross-harrowing, which is desirable in order to give the grass and clover seed slight covering, acts as a cultivation and a decided benefit to the wheat and grain crops, increasing the yield to a considerable extent. In fact, even if you do not seed clover and grasses on your wheat and fall-sown grain in the spring, it is to advantage to run the harrow over these crops, so as to break the crust of the soil, which acts as a cultivation and materially increases the yield of the grain.

Along the Sacramento river the milk is gathered with a motor boat known as the "Milk Maid." The boat makes two 20-mile trips a day and is almost always on time and runs seven days in the week. The average rate of speed is about 14 miles per hour. The carrying capacity of the "Milk Maid" is about 680 gallons. The milk, as was suggested, is collected along the route and delivered to the city trade.

Just shoveling feed to the hogs and selling for what you can get is not enough. You must know what the finished product cost you.

If you have the soil yield most profitably you must furnish it with nutriment that make it possible for it to produce.

The individual, the state, the nation and the world all benefit by agricultural progress and prosperity.

## The Duration of Layers.

It is a debatable question among poultrymen how long it is profitable to keep a layer. For a long time it has been advised to discard the laying stock at the end of the first year and replace it with pullets hatched each spring. This, no doubt, is good advice to those keeping the heavier breeds, but how about the lighter breeds?

My experience with Leghorns has taught me that a pullet was apt to produce more eggs than a yearling or a two year-old hen, but not enough more to pay for the difference in the cost and trouble of raising her. A hen lays a larger egg than a pullet, and her eggs make a better appearance in market.

It costs much to replenish one's flock each year, to say nothing about the extra room, time and pains required. Some poultry keepers, with a flock of 400 fowls will raise 100 pullets each year, and thus their flock is renewed every four years. Such a system, if will give one a flock productively, and is a great saving.

Careful selection of the best layers regardless of their age, except that certain age limit is fixed, will give one a flock productively of the best results.

Among some varieties of fowls it may not be wise to keep the laying stock more than one year, for some breeds take on fat rapidly after reaching full maturity, and are almost useless as egg producers. But among the lighter and more active breeds, such as Leghorns, Hamburgs, Polish and Minorcas, there is no necessity of disposing of the layers at the end of their first year. They may be kept with almost as much profit as pullets for two or four years.

I have known my father to keep White Leghorns for eight years that were profitable up to the time of their disposal. He had a system of his own that he followed. Every fall he would look over his flock and select those that were unusually fat or those whose combs were small and withered and seemed less promising as layers than the others. These were killed and marketed at intervals of two weeks.

This elimination of non-layers and overfat stock went on from November to the middle of February each year, and enough pullets were raised to take the place of those that had been marketed. His flock was always profitable and none of the neighbors ever got as many eggs as he did during the winter or the year through.—Exchange.

## Dry Feed.

The principle of dry feed is a good one and is being adopted by poultrymen everywhere. It conforms to nature, and all fowls in the wild state live mostly upon grain seeds, nuts and grasses, while bugs and insects form their animal food. If partridge, quail, and other wild birds thrive on such fare, why shouldn't the domestic hen?

By carefully conducted experiments it has been found that chickens raised and fed on the old system of wet mash do not make so rapid or so plump a growth as those reared on the new or dry feed system. The wet mash if fed in too great quantities is left sour, and chickens eating this are bound to be injured by it. Evil results follow and the flock is hampered in its growth. On the other hand, dry mash or grains do not sour and can not possibly injure the flock.

Chickens, like young children, need food often in order to make the best growth. If a supply of dry mash and grain is left where chickens can get at it, they will satisfy their hunger and make steady growth. I know of several cases where chickens are fed but once a week. A quantity of dry mash and grain is provided in a sufficient amount to last a week. Fresh water is supplied once or twice daily. I can say from personal observation that I never saw a healthier or better growing flock than where this method was followed.

A hopper is considered the best for feeding dry mash and grains, for it allows of but little waste. Some poultry keepers, however, use large shallow boxes for dry mash feeding, while others prefer a deep box so that the chicks cannot scratch it out and waste it.

A wet mash is apt to cause the chicks to eat too much at one time and thus gorge themselves.

This causes them to become lazy and they will lie for hours in the shade rather than forage and get the much needed exercise which is so essential to their growth. A dry mash on the other hand, will never tempt the chicks to eat too much. They will eat a little at a time, forage for bugs and worms, and return half a dozen times a day to the dry feed hopper.

The dry feed system saves time and labor. It is based on nature. It has been proved successful. Adopt it if you would have the best results with your flock.—Exchange.

## Charcoal for Hens.

In my own experience with poultry I am well aware that it is the simple things, and very often the most important too, that are apt to be over looked. As common, simple, inexpensive and easily obtained thing as is charcoal it is used comparatively few who keep poultry. The results of its constant use in my pens during the past few years has made it plain to me that it is one of the most essential articles among the poultry feeds or supplies. Since keeping it before the hens I have had much less trouble from bowel complaints with both chicks and fowls. A great many from habit, some from necessity, feed their fowls about the same kind of food day in and day out, rather poor quality, and fowls fed in this way must have something to assist nature in keeping the digestive organs in order. In each of my pens there is a box holding a couple of quarts in which a supply of charcoal most of it dry grain and much of it is kept the year round.—Exchange.

## Fertilizing Grain in the Spring.

We have also found most excellent results from fertilizing wheat and other grains during the month of March, in preference to applying the fertilizer at the time wheat is seeded in the fall, and we strongly recommend to our customers, whether they seed clover or grasses or not, to fertilize their grain crops with 200 to 300 lbs. of animal bone or a good grain fertilizer, at that time, and run the harrow over it to slightly incorporate it with the soil. The increased yields of grain will well repay for the fertilizing and little extra labor required.

The squirrel travels a good deal by rail, though he is never compelled to show his ticket.

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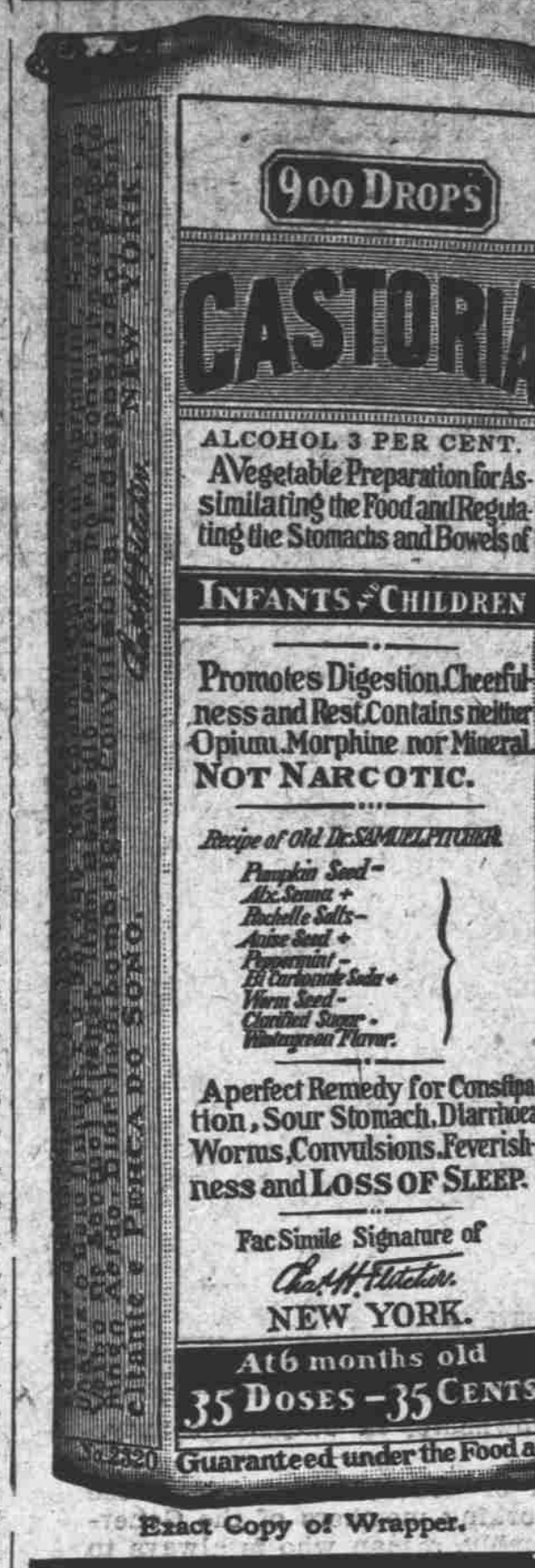
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